

# Animal Care & Control

January 2003

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## Maddie's Fund to give \$6 Million To Arizona's Maricopa County: Maddie's Pet Rescue & Spay/Neuter Projects Funded to Help Save Healthy Shelter Dogs and Cats

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*Although AC&C receives no funding from a recently awarded Maddie's Grant, AC&C is profoundly grateful to have played an instrumental role in bringing these monies into Maricopa County.*

Maddie's Fund awarded \$556,000 to support the first year of the concurrently running Maddie's Pet Rescue and Maddie's Spay/Neuter Projects to end the killing of healthy shelter dogs and cats in Maricopa County within five years. As goals are achieved, Maddie's Fund could provide Maricopa County's Maddie's Projects with as much as \$6 million.

Working together towards one common goal, the lifesaving efforts in Maricopa County are being administered by two different organizations operating under separate Maddie's Fund grants:

Maddie's Pet Rescue Project is a coalition comprised of Maricopa County Animal Care & Control, the Arizona Animal Welfare League, Friends for Life Animal Sanctuary, H.A.L.O. Animal Rescue, Noah's Ark Animal Rescue, Second Chance, Cat Help and Rescue Movement, Inc., Dog Rescue, Foothills Animal Rescue, Inc., Sun Cities Animal Rescue, and the Arizona Humane Society (AHS) and is focused solely on increasing adoptions.

The coalition received a first year grant of \$375,000 to increase adoptions by 1,141 over the previous year's baseline and

decrease the number of dogs and cats euthanized in AC&C and AHS shelters by 1,141.

Maddie's Spay/Neuter Project is being administered by the Arizona Veterinary Medical Association (AzVMA) with surgeries performed by participating private practice veterinarians. To date, eighty hospitals have enrolled in the program.

Maddie's Spay/Neuter Project has a first year goal of 3,000 surgeries. The AzVMA plans to reach the goal by offering dog spays and neuters for \$20 and \$90 per surgery depending upon species and gender. AzVMA veterinarians will contribute the remainder of the cost by reducing their fees to help more low-income pet owners spay/neuter their companion animals. Pet owners must show proof of income with a Medicaid card. A first year grant of \$181,000 was awarded to the AzVMA to administer the project and help underwrite the cost of the surgeries.

By awarding grants to two different agencies, Maddie's Fund hopes to make the project more manageable and the goals more attainable. Another aim is to encourage private practice veterinarians to get involved, **expanding Maricopa County's safety net of care for companion animals and building upon the great progress that has already been made by AC&C** and other animal welfare organizations.

"Maricopa County is a very interesting model," commented Maddie's Fund President Rich



Rich Avanzina,  
President, Maddie's Fund

Avanzina. "It's the first time we've tried funding two agencies as part of one community collaboration. And we have a big challenge. The county population is large and growing—over three million people. The number of animal sheltered — 109,000 — is equally large. **But the county has a variety of assets. It has one of the most progressive animal control programs in the nation. Maricopa County Animal Care & Control offers an impressive array of lifesaving programs and has done a tremendous job in lowering shelter intake, reducing shelter deaths and boosting adoptions.** The coalition includes every major animal welfare organization in the community and has several very strong partners. Maricopa County is home to pet retailer PETsMART and PETsMART Charities who have both pledged support. And the coalition leadership is strong. Because of these factors, we're looking forward to some very exciting results." ♦

"Wonderful news!  
Congratulations to  
everyone who  
worked on this!"

David Smith  
Maricopa County  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Congratulating  
everyone that helped  
bring a \$6 million  
Maddie's Grant into  
Maricopa County



# 'Dominion' makes case for animal welfare

By Steve Wilson, *The Arizona Republic*, December 8, 2002

A lamb bound with rope rests on the cover of *Dominion*, and you're thinking, "Here comes another animal-rights rant from a softheaded liberal who wants you to regret every hamburger you've ever eaten."

Not so.

Matthew Scully, who lived a decade in Arizona, is a conservative Republican and former speechwriter for President George W. Bush. His book argues for better treatment of animals rather than legal rights.

Though a vegetarian, he complains mostly about huge factory farms and calls eating meat from livestock raised more humanely "a decent compromise."

*Dominion* is an unsettling book, one that will challenge the conflicting values most of us hold.

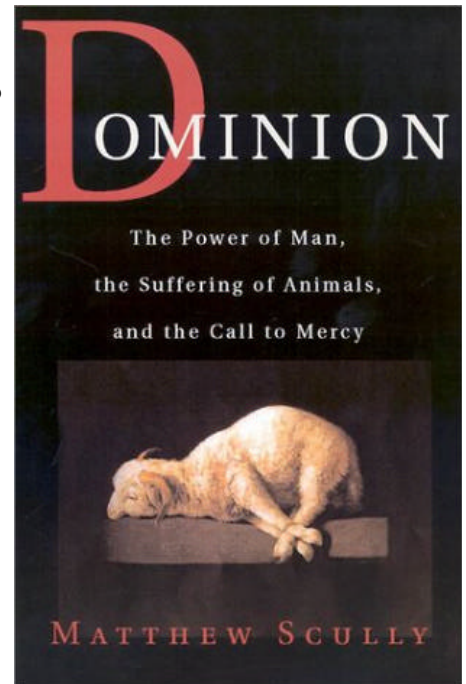
As much as we love our dogs and cats, we're generally indifferent to farm animals. Scully nails the contradiction:

"Go into the largest livestock operation, search out the darkest and tiniest stall or pen, single out the filthiest, most forlorn little lamb or pig or calf, and that is one of God's creatures you're looking at, morally indistinguishable from your beloved Fluffy or Frisky."

While focusing on the mistreatment of livestock, Scully also takes aim at wealthy sport hunters who delight in "harvesting" trophy animals in fenced-in, guaranteed-kill private parks. He quotes no less an avid hunter than Teddy Roosevelt, who scorned the killing of captive animals as "game butchery."

The book's title comes from the words in the Bible's book of Genesis that give humans dominion over "every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth."

Scully contends that passage has been perverted to justify ungodlike abuse and cites a variety of theological sources who back him up. He sees a duty of stewardship attached to our dominion, rather than giving license to all manner of callous exploitation. ♦



*Published by St. Martin's Press, this book is highly recommended for all conservatives and liberals on your gift-giving list.*

## Strong New Voice in Defense of Animal Rights

By Barry Kent MacKay, *Nature Trails*, *Toronto Star*, December 8, 2002, *Sunday Ontario Edition*

I am about to do something I never, ever thought I would do. I am going to strongly recommend a new book written by Matthew Scully, a former special assistant and senior speech writer for U.S. President George W. Bush. He is also a "literal Christian" who belongs as well to the Republican Party. Unlike other books on so-called "animal rights", *Dominion*, is receiving major attention from the mainstream media.

That's because the author, Scully, is not only from that sector of society we most associate with self-interest and contempt for animals and the environment, he skillfully argues his case for compassion on their terms. He deflates the arguments of the most holy self-righteous of the conservative political right using their own sources and values.

Unlike utilitarian philosopher Peter Singer (whom the author pounces on with the same zeal that so deliciously demolishes Safari Club International), Scully firmly believes in the word of the Bible and an absolute morality as the foundation

for human behavior.

Singer, the Australian-born author of *Animal Liberation*, seeks a purely intellectual approach that demonstrates the hypocrisy of a double standard that allows good socialists and conservatives alike to bemoan the fate of homeless humans and then sit down to a warm bowl of chicken soup - certain that there is no need within their values to consider the chicken. Source of those values is irrelevant.

Scully takes the holy books of religions, most particularly the Judeo-Christian religions, at their word. There is evil to be guarded against and yet our society, through its laws and customs, practices evil in the name of profit, tradition, hypocrisy and hubristic indifference.

The very title of his book is taken from the Book of Genesis, where God grants humans "dominion" over the animals.

Many authors have pointed out that "dominion" does not equate a "right" to engage for fun or profit in things that torment trapped, factory-farmed or other horridly abused animals. But few carry into the popular forum of mainstream publishing the creden-

tials of Matthew Scully. He's a member of the U.S. political party that wants to drill oil in Alaska's arctic wildlife preserve, for heaven's sake.

He can be disarmingly polite and witty as he bursts the balloons of self-serving illogic that define society's relationship to animals. He does not balk at seeing sinful activities as being literally sinful.

Scully brilliantly articulates the idea that where fundamental human interests are at stake, and human suffering is the issue, the progressives among us are moral absolutists, but with animals and their suffering they become moral relativists who dare not question what others - from Japanese whalers to profiteering pork producers - rationalize in defense of their respective forms of animal abuse.

While I don't always agree with Scully, I am delighted to see conservative, right-wing, religious thinking promoting values I tend to associate a bit more with liberal, agnostic thinkers. ♦

# Feral cats littering Chandler

By Zarana Sanghani, East Valley Tribune

Dozens of feral cats are spraying doors, soiling yards and creeping into garages in a Chandler neighborhood southwest of Chandler Boulevard and Kyrene Road.

Residents say they are finding little relief from the city or Maricopa County.

"It's a problem," said resident Theo Anne Brautigan. "I finally gave up on the garden. It's full of cat poop."

Brautigan appealed to the city for help. But Chandler leaves animal control to the county, said Brian Bosshardt, assistant to the mayor and council. He said the city determined that the neighborhood's drain system needed cleaning, but that may drive cats into the streets.

Some residents have taken cats to the Maricopa County Animal Care Center in Mesa. Whoever brings in the cat must pay \$61 to have it euthanized.

The county now encourages residents to have the animals neutered or spayed then return them to their habitats, said Ed Boks, the executive director of the county animal care and control.

He said that euthanasia is expensive and ineffective. Feral cats live in colonies and when they notice fellow cats missing, the females start breeding at a higher rate, Boks said.

Neutering and returning cats prevents breeding increases, then eventually, the feral population will thin out, Boks said. Also, once they're neutered, they tend

to do less of the things that aggravate residents, such as spraying. They also stay near their food supply.

The county charges \$20 for neutering and \$25 for spaying. Boks said cities should pay for the procedures.

Scott Block, who has had cats crawl into his boat and defecate, agrees.

"One of our big concerns is we have a 2 1/2-year-old," Block said. "We're concerned about what kinds of diseases these cats are carrying."

Boks said feral cats pose minimal health risks to humans, and the county would euthanize a sick cat instead of allowing it to be neutered and returned. ♦

## PROBLEM?



## MARICOPA COUNTY'S PIONEERING FERAL CAT PROGRAM

By Lynn Spivak, Maddie's Fund

Maricopa County, Arizona (which includes Phoenix, Scottsdale, Chandler, Mesa and twenty other municipalities), is the fourth largest county in the U.S. with a current population of 3,072,149. Between 1990 and 2000, Maricopa's population grew by 45%, more than any other county in the nation.

There is only one government animal control facility serving this teeming population: The Maricopa County Department of Animal Care & Control (AC&C).

In 1998, Ed Boks became AC&C's Executive Director. At the time, the agency was admitting about 62,000 animals; 10,000 of them feral cats. By state law, AC&C had to hold the cats (defined as strays) for three days to give them a chance to be reclaimed by their owners. Without

hope of being reclaimed, the cats passed the time huddled in their cages, terrified by their captivity and by the frightening sounds and smells of the shelter. At the end of the three days, the cats were killed.

While the cats waited for death, thirty thousand kennel days were unavailable to healthy, adoptable animals who were deprived of the extra time that could have been used to find them a loving new home.

Ed figured there had to be a more humane way to deal with this situation and he was determined to find it.

As luck would have it, a flyer crossed his desk from the national feral cat advocacy organization, Alley Cat Allies. Ed read it and called Executive Director Becky Robinson. "Educate me," he de-

manded. Becky flew to Phoenix and gave Ed and other local officials a crash course in Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), a non-lethal policy that advocates spaying and neutering for feral cats and then allowing them to live out their lives in managed feral cat colonies.

Ed became a true believer.

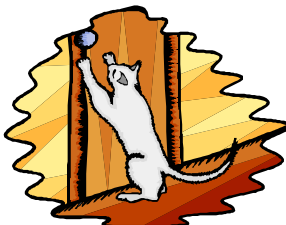
He convinced local cable tv stations to run videos about TNR and put them in permanent rotation.

He teamed up on a TNR program with the Arizona Cat Assistance Team (AzCATs), and provided AzCATs with free spay/neuter surgeries on specified Feral Cat Days.

He also started Operation FELIX (Feral Education and Love Instead

(Continued on page 4)

## ANSWER!





## Maricopa County's Pioneering Feral Cat Program...

(Continued from page 3)

of X-termination), a program that supports feral cat colony caretakers in their TNR efforts.

Operation FELIX members are approved by AC&C to manage feral cat colonies and trap cats for surgery. Members are required to go through an AC&C orientation to demonstrate they can safely and humanely trap and care for ferals. They must also know how to prevent the cats from becoming a nuisance to the community.

AC&C provides FELIX members with spay/neuter surgery for \$20 (males) and \$25 (females) and will take any cats deemed tame enough for adoption. AC&C has a very successful cat adoption program, adopting over 7,000 cats annually. AC&C will also match up FELIX members with experts in the community who can give them in-depth advice and occasional hands-on assistance. Membership benefits also include free pet food for those who need assistance in feeding their colony.

"To date we have 55 'card carrying' FELIX members and we're adding about fifteen new people each month," Boks states. "Since Felix started, AC&C has spayed and neutered over 1,500 cats, including cats brought in through the Arizona State University feral cat volunteer group, MILD Cats."

In Spring 2002, Ed complimented FELIX with stronger measures. He started with an analysis of what it was costing the county to take in, process and kill the ferals and came

up with a figure: \$61 dollars. He then sent a letter to every municipality in the county arguing that it was morally wrong to take in and kill these cats, and that it was not solving the problem but making it worse. He went on to say that the process was costing taxpayers money and that it made no sense to continue the same course of action. He announced that as of July 2002, his officers would no longer bring in feral cats (unless they were sick or injured) and there would be a \$61 dollar charge to anyone else who did (some municipalities have their own animal control officers but use Maricopa's animal control shelters). One municipality didn't take Ed seriously--until it received a bill for \$17,000.

And then the coup de gras.

In September 2002, the County Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution endorsing trap-neuter-return as the most effective, humane method of controlling feral cat populations in Maricopa County (see full Resolution on page 6).

"To my knowledge, this is the first official TNR endorsement by any city or county in the nation," says Boks. "But what the County Supervisors have done is truly remarkable. By supporting TNR and refusing to take feral cats into the system, they've freed up kennel space, giving homeless pets a better chance for adoption, and instantly prevented the deaths of 10,000 shelter animals per year. If other cities or counties decided to follow Maricopa's lead, just imagine how many lives we could save overnight."



*"I'm looking for my owner.  
He's about this tall. He has brown eyes  
and is a little irresponsible.  
You haven't seen him have you?"*

*This and other articles highlighting AC&C can be found on Maddie's website at: [www.maddies.org](http://www.maddies.org), and of course, at [pets.maricopa.gov](http://pets.maricopa.gov) ♦*



## The Golden Nads Award

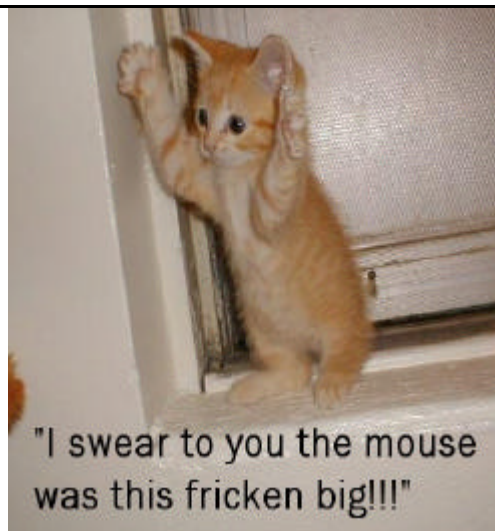
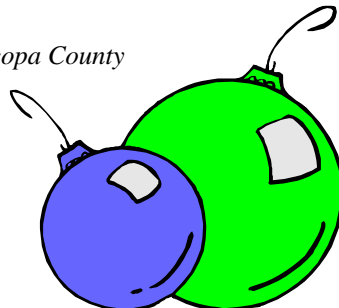
AC&C received yet another prestigious national award! AC&C is very grateful for this wonderful recognition. The award AC&C received reads as follows:

*With grateful appreciation for your work in eradicating ovaries and testies (NADS!), and your commitment to The Sterile Cause.*

*It is our profound pleasure to announce that Maricopa County Animal Care & Control has been added to The Distinguished Hall of Nad Nabbers.*

*Congratulations! And GO NADS!*

*The Neuteress of the Night,  
The Ace of Spayed, and  
Leaky Billy*



*"I swear to you the mouse  
was this fricken big!!!"*

# Advice For AC&C Supervisors/Managers

Now that another Holiday Season is behind us, it may be of some benefit to AC&C supervisors and managers to listen closely to the advice of management guru The Spirit of Christmas Past:

"During the whole of this time, Scrooge had acted like a man out of his wits. His heart and soul were in the scene, and with his former self. He corroborated everything, remembered everything, enjoyed everything, and underwent the strangest agitation. It was not until now, when the bright faces of his former self and Dick were turned from them, that he remembered the Ghost, and became conscious that it was looking full upon him, while the light upon its head burnt very clear.

"A small matter," said the Ghost, "to make these silly folks so full of gratitude."

"Small!" echoed Scrooge.

The Spirit signed to him to listen to the two apprentices, who were pouring out their hearts in praise of Fezziwig: and when he had done so, said, "Why! Is it not! He has spent but a few pounds of your mortal money: three or four perhaps. Is that so much that he deserves this praise?"

"It isn't that," said Scrooge, heated by the remark, and speaking unconsciously like his former, not his latter, self. "It isn't that, Spirit. He has the power to render us happy or unhappy; to make our service light or burdensome; a pleasure or a toil. Say that his power lies in words and looks; in things so slight and insignificant that it is impossible to add and count them up: what then? The happiness he gives, is quite as great as if it cost a fortune."

He felt the Spirit's glance, and stopped.

"What is the matter?" asked the Ghost.

"Nothing in particular," said Scrooge.

"Something, I think?" the Ghost insisted.

"No," said Scrooge, "No. I should like to be able to say a word or two to my clerk just now! That's all." His former self turned down the lamps as he gave utterance to the wish; and Scrooge and the Ghost again stood side by side in the open air.

"My time grows short," observed the Spirit. "Quick!"

If you are a supervisor or a manager in AC&C remember, you have the power to render your staff



## Mr. Fezziwig's Ball

*Courtesy of Fezziwig Consulting...*

happy or unhappy, to make their service light or burdensome, a pleasure or a toil. You can do this with words and looks, in things so slight and insignificant that it is impossible to add and count them up. The happiness you give, at very little cost, is as great as if it cost a fortune!

***To all the employees that worked Christmas and New Year's Day so that so many of us could be with family and friends, THANK YOU!***

## AC&C Field Officers and Phoenix P.D. Join Forces in Rescue Operation

By Martha Bern

On the morning of December 24<sup>th</sup>, AC&C Field Officers conducted a joint operation with the City of Phoenix Police Department.

The city conducts special crime prevention programs directed at helping the residents in specific crime-ridden areas to feel safer and better about their neighborhoods.

The police officers assigned to this project requested AC&C and the Phoenix Police conduct a rescue operation for dogs that were causing problems for the residents and them.

Five officers and one trainee from AC&C, along with four police officers participated in the rescue operation. AC&C officers issued 24 citations to guardians for letting

their dogs run at large, rescued 5 dogs, and returned 19 dogs to their owners.

AC&C conducts many operations such as this directed at keeping both the animals and public safe from injuries due to irresponsible pet ownership.

AC&C looks forward to many more joint operations with other departments in the future. ♦

*"Our brightest  
blazes are  
commonly  
kindled by  
unexpected  
sparks!"*

*Samuel Johnson*





*Maricopa County is the most progressive municipal government in the United States with respect to feral cats! Ask your local city representatives to support Operation FELIX!*

# Maricopa County's Historic Resolution

## Operation FELIX (Feral Education & Love Instead of X-termination)

### Resolution

To designate Operation FELIX as the officially approved means to solving feral cat related problems in Maricopa County.

**Whereas**, there are millions of feral cats now living in the United States and tens of thousands in Maricopa County as a result of natural increase and continued influx of abandoned and stray unsterilized domestic cats;

**Whereas**, this population has been created and perpetuated by human failure to control the breeding of domestic household cats;

**Whereas**, this population has been largely ignored in most communities in the United States;

**Whereas**, scientific evidence and experience in the United States and other countries has shown that the non-lethal trap-neuter-return method, accompanied by on-going feral cat colony management, is a humane and effective means for controlling and reducing the feral cat population while providing for the welfare of feral cats;

**Whereas**, caring individuals and groups all across the country and Maricopa County are already effectively applying non-lethal management to control feral cat populations;

**Whereas**, the County of Maricopa embraces the sanctity of all life and the importance of preserving and protecting life wherever possible;

**Be it therefore resolved**, that the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors does hereby endorse non-lethal trap-neuter-return, when accompanied by ongoing feral cat management, as the most effective, humane method of controlling feral cat populations in Maricopa County and in so doing better provides for the welfare of these animals while better serving our communities' public health and safety concerns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have hereunto set our hands this 18th day of September, 2002.

*Signed by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors ♦*

## Ed Boks, Featured by Best Friends Magazine & On-line

In mythology, the Phoenix bird rises from its own ashes. In Phoenix, Arizona, it's the homeless pets that are rising from the ashes. (And that's no myth!) Phoenix and its surrounding county used to have the worst record in the country for the numbers of animals being killed at shelters. Now it has one of the best. And it's pushing to bring an end altogether to the killing of homeless dogs and cats.

Driving the campaign is Ed Boks. He's not the head of an upstart no-kill group or even a large, well-heeled humane society. He's the county animal control officer. And in doing what he's doing, he's setting a new agenda for animal control departments all over the country.

Ed is profiled on the **Best Friends** web site in a remarkable interview. And he'll be online the week of January 6<sup>th</sup> to answer your questions and show you how you can develop a similar program in your own community. So log on and join in. It's all online at [www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org). ♦



*"To know what is right and not to do it is the worst cowardice."*

*Confucius*

# Furry Faces Stop Traffic Beginning January 2003

By Susan Della Maddelena

The first example of a new advertising campaign promoting the adoption of Maricopa County Animal Care & Control dogs and cats will be launched on outdoor boards this month. Radio, newspaper and magazine advertising will also support this message throughout 2003.

The campaign is designed to effect social change in the way people think about pets by promoting the adoption of shelter animals and spay/neutering, which will reduce the number of unwanted dogs and cats in our community. The message supports the efforts of Maricopa County Animal Care & Control, which is considered to be a national model for municipal facilities and adoption centers, with many visionary and innovative programs that have dramatically increased adoption and spay/neuter and reduced the euthanasia of healthy and adoptable dogs and cats.

The initial outdoor messages focus on adoption, and feature eye-catching photos of AC&C dogs and cats, coupled with a catchy headline. Later ads will encourage people to spay/neuter their pets.

The campaign was created through a collaboration between **Friends of Animal Care & Control, Reister-Robb Advertising**, who provided pro-bono services to create the campaign and **Clear Channel Communications**, who stepped forward with a generous donation of four outdoor boards for one year to support the campaign. The boards will be moved to new locations every 60-90 days in order to maximize reach to the community.

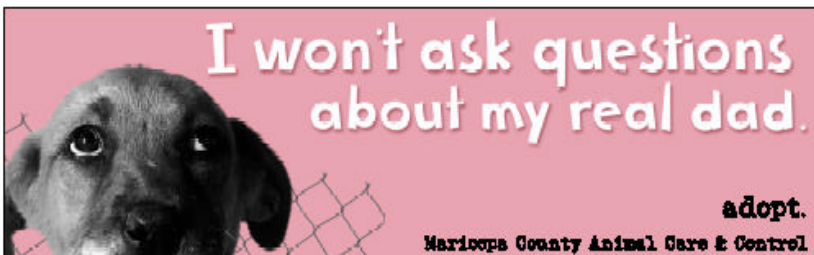
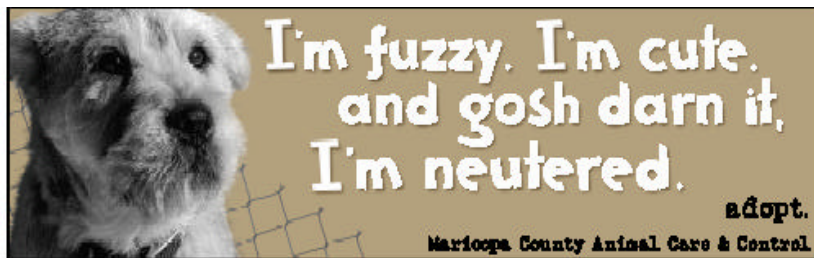
The current locations of the outdoor boards are:

24<sup>th</sup> Street and Harrison (east side of street, north of Harrison)

7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Indian School (east side of road, north of Indian School)

Central Avenue and Turney (west side of street, north of Turney)

I-17, at Colter (just south of Colter, on the east side of the freeway) ♦





**THRIFT STORE**  
Friends of Animal Care & Control  
FACCS

The new Friends of Animal Care & Control thrift shop is now open for business! Located at **12609 N. Cave Creek Road** (just north of Cactus on Cave Creek Road) is accepting all types of merchandise, including clothing and household items (excluding baby furniture and car seats). Come on by for a visit or to pick up a gift for that special someone! ♦



Help save the lives of hundreds of lost dogs and cats by changing your address to electronic mail.

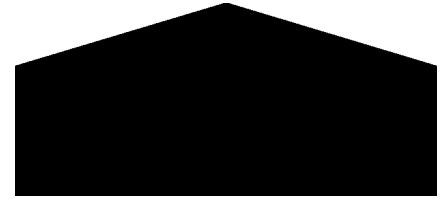
It costs \$10 a year to print and mail the newsletter to you.

Ten dollars feeds 40 dogs for one day.

Send your email address to [kdickey@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:kdickey@mail.maricopa.gov) and ask to be dropped from snail mail and put on email today.

**THANK YOU!**

Phone: 602-506-2772  
Fax: 602-506-2739  
Email: edboks@mail.maricopa.gov



*We create happiness by bringing  
pets and people together!*



2323 South 35th Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85009

**Maricopa County  
Animal Care & Control**

### **2003 Desert Dogs & Cool Cats of Maricopa County Calendar Going Fast!**

There is still time to delight your family and friends with a **Desert Dogs & Cool Cats of Maricopa County calendar** - plus you'll be helping save homeless dogs and cats in Maricopa County.

The calendar features charming photos of Maricopa County dogs and cats, several of whom were adopted from Maricopa County Animal Care & Control. It is available for a purchase price of \$10 **at all area PETsMART stores** and at the **FACCs on line retail store ([www.teamshoppremiums.com/mcacc](http://www.teamshoppremiums.com/mcacc))**.

So help out a homeless dog or cat in 2003! ♦



***Adopt a pet from Animal Care & Control today!***  
602-506-PETS [www.pets.maricopa.gov](http://www.pets.maricopa.gov)